

What do you want for the I-405 Corridor?

We want to hear your comments and suggestions. Community involvement is key to the success of the Program. Here are some ways you can get in touch with us:

Schedule a Community Briefing

Call 206.464.5878 to arrange a briefing by Program staff to your community group

Check out our Web site for Current Project Information

www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405

Email us your comments

i405@wsdot.wa.gov

Have Questions or want more Information?

Christina Martinez, 206.464.5878
WSDOT
401 2nd Avenue South, #300
Seattle, WA 98104-2887

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodation may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodation by contacting WSDOT-OUM, 206.464.5878, usually 2 weeks before meeting's date. Persons with hearing impairments may call Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service (TTY) at 1-800-833-6388, or Tele-Braille at 1-800-833-6385, or Voice at 1-800-833-6384, and ask to be connected to the event sponsor's phone number.

Title VI Notice to Public

It is the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin and sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact OEO's Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7098.

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I-405

CORRIDOR PROGRAM

August 2001

I-405 Draft EIS Issued For Public Comment

Help Determine I-405's Future

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the alternative solutions developed to address mobility and traffic congestion in the I-405 corridor has been issued by the I-405 Corridor Program. The EIS allows the public and agencies to examine the impacts of the different types of solutions being considered by the program.

We've scheduled three public hearings for you to learn about and provide comments on the Draft EIS findings and the alternatives being evaluated. Comments received will be included in the official record of the environmental review process.

The public is encouraged to review the Draft EIS and provide comments regarding the impacts, alternatives and mitigation identified. Comments on the Draft EIS stimulate discussion and thoughts about how to change or modify the alternatives to improve performance and reduce adverse impacts. The 45-day



Public open houses this spring highlighted the Program's preliminary preferred alternative.

comment period for the Draft EIS ends October 8, 2001.

Opportunities for involvement:

- Attend a public hearing
- Review the Draft EIS at public libraries in the I-405 Corridor
- Contact WSDOT, 206.464.5878, for an electronic CD version of the Draft EIS
- Review a summary of the Draft EIS online: www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405
- E-mail comments to: i405@wsdot.wa.gov
- Mail written comments to: WSDOT c/o I-405 Program, 401 2nd Avenue S. #300, Seattle, WA 98104-2887

Comments received during the public comment period will be addressed in the Final EIS to be completed this fall.

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?

An Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, is an in-depth analysis of all reasonable options considered in a proposal. It serves a number of purposes:

- Identifies and describes potential environmental impacts of alternatives under consideration;
- Identifies actions that mitigate adverse impacts;
- Helps decision makers identify the alternative that best meets the purpose of the project and need for action; and
- Provides the public and other agencies with an opportunity to review and comment on project impacts and proposed alternatives.

An EIS is first issued as a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to invite comments and review on the accuracy and thoroughness of the environmental analysis so that improvements can be made before the document is finalized.

Public Hearings

Sept 18, 7-9 p.m.

Northshore Senior Ctr.
10201 E Riverside Dr.
Bothell, WA 98011

Sept 19, 7-9 p.m.

Renton Senior Center
211 Burnett Ave. N
Renton, WA 98055

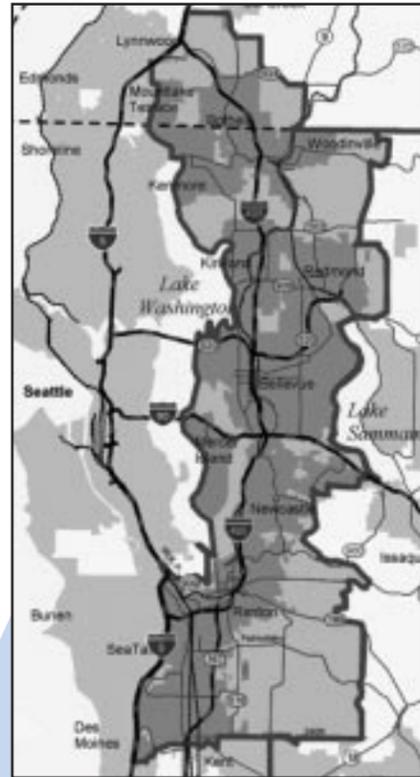
Sept 20, 7-9 p.m.

Bellevue Regional Library
1111 110th Ave. NE
Bellevue, WA 98004

Public Open Houses will precede each public hearing from 5-7 p.m.

What is in the I-405 Program Draft EIS?

The document is organized into nine chapters. **Chapter One** provides an overview of the I-405 Corridor Program, background information about traffic and transportation in the area, and a discussion of the purpose of the project (objectives) and need for action.



Chapter Two discusses the alternatives in detail, offering background and general operation principles. Descriptions of the alternatives and the methodology used to evaluate the alternatives under consideration are also included.



Chapter Three discusses the existing and future conditions in the I-405 corridor, the environmental impacts associated with the alternatives being considered and possible mitigation for adverse impacts. Issues addressed within this chapter include:

- Air Quality
- Noise
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Water Resources
- Wetlands
- Wildlife, Habitat, and Threatened and Endangered Species
- Fish and Aquatic Habitat
- Floodplains
- Transportation
- Land Use
- Displacements and Right-of-Way Acquisition
- Social and Economic Impacts
- Visual Quality
- Environmental Justice



The remaining chapters present references, supporting tables, appendices, a glossary of technical terms, and a summary of the public involvement program.

PROGRAM TIMELINE: Moving Toward a Solution

- ✓ **Define Problem and Evaluation Method**
Completed Spring/Summer 1999
- ✓ **Develop Concepts and Solutions & Open House on Solution Packages**
Completed Spring/Summer 2000
- ✓ **Detailed Environmental Review and Preliminary Preferred Alternative Recommendations**
Completed Fall/Winter 2000-2001
- ✓ **Public Open Houses on Preliminary Analysis Results and Alternatives**
Completed Spring 2001
- **Issue Draft EIS, Public Hearings and Preferred Alternative Recommendations**
Fall 2001
- **Final EIS and Recommendations**
Winter 2002

Regional Partnership Oversees Decision Making

The I-405 Corridor Program is a WSDOT sponsored community-based effort to create transportation improvements that will address transportation needs in the I-405 corridor. Decision-making is guided by three committees: a Citizen Committee of people representing a wide range of interests all along the corridor, a Steering Committee of senior level staff, and an Executive Committee of federal, state, regional and local elected and appointed officials from agencies and jurisdictions with an interest in the corridor.

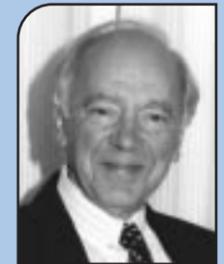
The program's Executive Committee will review public input and the outcomes of EIS analysis before a decision is made on a preferred alternative for I-405 in Fall 2001.

I-405 Executive Committee Members

Chair: George Kargianis, *Washington State Transportation Commission*
Vice-Chair: Rob McKenna, *Sound Transit Board and King County Council*

Members

Connie Marshall, *Councilmember, City of Bellevue*
Dick Paylor, *Councilmember, City of Bothell*
Joan McBride, *Councilmember, City of Kirkland*
Sonny Putter, *Mayor, City of Newcastle*
Rosemarie Ives, *Mayor, City of Redmond*
Randy Corman, *Councilmember, City of Renton*
Steve Mullet, *Mayor, City of Tukwila*
Gary Hughes, *Federal Highway Administration*
Harold Taniguchi, *King County Department of Transportation*
Bob Edwards, *Board President, Puget Sound Regional Council*
Barbara Cothorn, *Councilmember, Snohomish County*
Dave Somers, *Councilmember, Snohomish County*
Christopher Hurst, *Representative, WA State House of Representatives*
Cheryl Pflug, *Representative, WA State House of Representatives*
Jim Horn, *Senator, Washington State Senate*
Julia Patterson, *Senator, Washington State Senate*
John Okamoto, *NW Regional Administrator, WSDOT*



"I-405 is a critical part of our state's transportation system. Undertaking major improvements is essential to maintaining livable and vibrant communities, fostering economic growth in the region and improving existing environmental problems in the corridor.

The I-405 Program will be reaching a major milestone this fall with the issuance of the Draft EIS and selection of a preferred alternative. We will be working with our constituents to incorporate a wide-range of interests and perspectives into this decision. Our guiding principles are simple: the belief that a shared vision for the corridor is possible and that it's time to take action on I-405's problems."

— *Executive Committee Chairman George Kargianis. Mr. Kargianis also serves on the Washington State Transportation Commission.*

Alternatives Under Consideration

The I-405 Corridor Program has developed four alternative approaches to address mobility and congestion in the corridor, in addition to the required "no action" alternative.

Detailed descriptions of the alternatives are available on the Program's web page: www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405

ALTERNATIVE ONE

High Capacity Transit/Transportation Demand Management Emphasis

Provides a fixed guideway (e.g., light rail) transit system bolstered by feeder buses and expanded travel demand strategies. Includes basic safety improvements on I-405.

ALTERNATIVE TWO

Mixed Mode with High Capacity Transit Emphasis

Provides a fixed guideway transit system bolstered by feeder buses, travel demand strategies and one additional general purpose traffic lane each direction to I-405. Includes basic safety improvements on I-405.

ALTERNATIVE THREE

Mixed Mode Emphasis

Provides an expanded express and local bus system, two additional general purpose traffic lanes each direction on I-405, and includes improvements to arterial streets.

ALTERNATIVE FOUR

General Capacity Emphasis

Provides one additional general purpose traffic lane each direction to I-405, plus two new express traffic lanes each direction on I-405, widening SR 167, moderate transit expansion and includes improvements to arterial streets.